

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 CIEP-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-08 CEA-01 /104 W
-----101743Z 125997 /41

R 101442Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9858
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USDEL MTN GENEVA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EGEN UNCTAD CIEC EAID ETRD EEC
SUBJECT: LIBERAL AID DONOR NATIONS DECIDE TO LOBBY HARDER FOR
COOPERATION WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1. SUMMARY: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MINISTERS OF "LIKE-
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MINDED" AID DONOR NATIONS (BELGIUM, DENMARK, FINLAND,
NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN, WITH IRELAND AS OBSERVER) MET
IN THE HAGUE FEBRUARY 7 AND 8. AFTER REVIEWING RELATIVELY
SLOW PROGRESS ON NORTH/SOUTH AND INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR
COMMODITIES, THEY CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR
INDIVIDUAL MINISTERS FROM NETHERLANDS (PRONK), BELGIUM,
AND POSSIBLY SWEDEN TO SEEK OPPORTUNITY BEFORE END OF

MARCH TO VISIT WASHINGTON TO EXPRESS AT A HIGH LEVEL THEIR VIEWS ON URGENT NEED FOR PROGRESS BY WESTERN INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES IN DEALING WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. GROUP WILL ALSO PRESS THEIR VIEWS IN EC AND GROUP B MEETINGS. GROUP PLANS TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES AS BEST PLACE FOR FIRST STEP TOWARD ESTABLISHING NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. END SUMMARY.

2. MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION VAN GORKOM AND HIS ECON/COMMERCIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS ASSISTANT GAJENTAAN TOLD DCM AND E/C COUNSELOR LATE FEB 9 THAT FEB 7 TO 8 MEETING IN THE HAGUE DISCUSSED COMPLETE LACK OF PROGRESS AND NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES INCLUDING DEADLOCK IN CIEC AND CONCLUDED CURRENT EFFORTS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOCUSED ON TACTICS AND DATELINE MANEUVERING RATHER THAN SUBSTANCE. CONSEQUENTLY THIS GROUP SEES AN URGENT NEED FOR ACTION AND INTENDS TO MAKE ITS VIEWS KNOWN ON NEED FOR REAL PROGRESS ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES AND TO PRESS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF A LIBERAL APPROACH BY EC, THE USG, AND GROUP B COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH VAN GORKOM WAS AT PAINS TO EMPHASIZE GROUP ONLY EXCHANGED VIEWS AND TOOK NO DECISIONS, FOLLOWING POSITIONS APPEARED TO REPRESENT CONSENSUS: (1) ACTIVE SUPPORT FOR THE OBJECTIVES OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (NIEO); (2) RECOGNITION THAT AN IMPROVED AND STABILIZED STRUCTURE OF WORLD COMMODITY MARKETS WOULD BE IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD NIEO; (3) ACCEPTANCE OF AND SUPPORT FOR AN INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES (IP) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS ADOPTED IN RES 93 (IV) AT NAIROBI UNCTAD; (4) PREPAREDNESS TO COORDINATE PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE; (5) RECOGNITION OF NEED FOR AGREEMENTS FOR COMMODITIES INCLUDED IN THE IP; (6) ACUTAL PARTICIPATION IN PREPARING DRAFT COMMODITY AGREEMENTS; (7) ACCEPTANCE THAT COMMON FUND IS CENTRAL ELEMENT OF IP; (8) WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE MODALITIES OF COMMON FUND WITHIN SPECIFIED TIME; (9) PLEDGE TO CONTRIBUTE TO COMMON FUND. IN ADDITION, GROUP DISCUSSED DESIRABILITY OF SUPPORTING:

- (1) NEW DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STUDY FOR 1980'S AND 1990'S IN UNGA SECOND COMMITTEE;
- (2) IBRD'S MCNAMARA PROPOSAL FOR WILLI BRANDT STUDY (DUTCH HAVE ALREADY OFFERED TO PROVIDE FUNDS);
- (3) IBRD/IMF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 'S NEW LEADERSHIP IN SEEKING EFFECTIVE WAYS TO TRANSFER RESOURCES TO LDC'S;
- (4) REPLENISHMENT OF IDA;
- (5) RESTRUCTURING OF INDUSTRIES TO ACCOMMODATE INDUSTRIAL

TRANSFER TO LDC'S;

(6) COORDINATING BILATERAL AID TO ACHIEVE THEIR WELFARE OBJECTIVES.

3. VAN GORKOM SAID THAT, WHILE INITIAL REACTION OF LDC'S TO MCNAMARA PROPOSAL HAD BEEN CYNICAL ASSESSMENT THAT IT WAS DESIGNED AS STALLING TACTIC TO CIRCUMVENT CIEC, GROUP BELIEVES LDC LEADERS NOW SEE PROPOSAL IN POSITIVE LIGHT. THEREFORE GROUP BELIEVES USG SUPPORT WOULD BE DESIRABLE AND HELPFUL.

4. VAN GORKOM MADE POINT THAT THIS GROUP, PARTICULARLY ITS EC MEMBERS, REALIZED THAT IT IS PRIMARILY A LOBBYING FORCE AND THAT ONLY EC COULD MAKE BINDING POLITICAL DECISIONS ON MANY OF ISSUES DISCUSSED. HE NOTED THAT HE HAD GIVEN EC EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES A FULL BRIEFING MORNING OF FEBRUARY 9. HE SAID LIKE-MINDED GROUP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BELIEVED THAT THEIR VIEWS HAD NOT RECEIVED CONSIDERATION BY THE LARGER WESTERN INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES IN PROPORTION TO GROUP'S SUBSTANTIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. VAN GORKOM EMPHASIZED THAT GROUP WOULD MEET FROM TIME TO TIME BUT ONLY ON AD HOC, NOT INSTITUTIONAL BASIS. NEXT MEETING WAS TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR COPENHAGEN IN AUGUST, WITH AUSTRIA PROBABLY JOINING THE GROUP. MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977THEHA00738
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770048-0376
Format: TEL
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770252/aaaabujv.tel
Line Count: 147
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 714074c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3350343
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBERAL AID DONOR NATIONS DECIDE TO LOBBY HARDER FOR COOPERATION WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
TAGS: EGEN, EAID, ETRD, UNCTAD, EEC, CIEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/714074c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009